

WINGSPREAD

Go with the flow



Manual Prado, 12th Aircraft Maintenance Directorate, connects the hose for refueling a T-38C on the Randolph flightline. The 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron pumps about 16 million gallons of fuels and cryogenic products in 25,000 servicings annually. (Photo by Bob Hieronymus)

Junior Enlisted Appreciation Day takes place today

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

Today the Randolph Top 3 invites all junior enlisted members out for an afternoon of free food and fun at Eberle Park. Beginning at 11 a.m. and running to 4 p.m., events are planned to show the junior enlisted that their accomplishments and potential are important to the base’s mission and to the whole armed forces.

Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Sargent, 12th Flying Training Wing command chief, wants to make sure the young enlisted people understand how much they contribute to the Air Force mission. “JEAD is an outstanding event on Randolph,” he said. “It provides a very tangible expression of appreciation for the contributions of our junior enlisted members. It’s also an excellent opportunity for our entire military

community to come together in a social environment. I’m personally looking forward to attending JEAD and spending time with members of our junior enlisted force. They’re the best and brightest our country has to offer and the conversations we share never fail to inspire me.” Games and sports are planned for the afternoon, with some organizations setting up teams to keep the competition keen. Horseshoes, basketball, volleyball,

touch football and possibly other sports are expected to keep participants challenged. The menu includes brisket, hamburgers, sausage, hot dogs, soft drinks, chips and all the other usual picnic fare. Airmen in grades E-1 through E-6 are invited to attend the event free of charge. There will be a variety of door prizes given away throughout the day. Everyone else is welcome at \$3 per ticket.

12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE

As of Monday			Navigator, EWO training				Wing Flying Hour Program			
Pilot Instructor Training										
Squadron	Senior Class	Overall	562nd FTS	563rd FTS			Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
99th FTS	1.0	1.1	Air Force	235	Undergraduate	52	T-1A	658.8	604.9	12,184
558th FTS	7.2	1.5	Navy	69	International	0	T-6A	851.2	856.0	17,290
559th FTS	-0.7	-1.4	International	3	EWC Course	0	T-37B	448.0	427.8	8,284
560th FTS	0.1	2.5	NIFT	68	Fundamentals	0	T-38C	537.1	542.8	9,729
							T-43	244.6	253.0	4,293

Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.

Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of navigator students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses.

The required and flown numbers reflect hours flown between Oct. 1, 2004 to date. The annual numbers are total hours for fiscal year 2005.

Retiree Appreciation Day
Retiree Appreciation Day is Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. in Hangar 4.
See page 2 for details.





AIR AND SPACE
EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE

As of Monday, 81 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe.

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Articles for the newspaper should be submitted by noon Thursday the week prior to the desired publication date. Items can be dropped off on a PC- or Macintosh-formatted disk at the Wingspread office in room 110 of Building 100.

Articles may also be sent by e-mail to wingspread@randolph.af.mil or by fax at 652-5412 or base ext. 7-5412.

For more information about submissions, call 652-5760 or base ext. 7-5760.

Commander’s Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail
randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil



While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Col. John Hesterman
12th Flying Training Wing commander

Agency contact numbers	
Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Transportation	652-4314
Military Pay	652-1851
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Safety Office	652-2224
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
12th FTW IG	652-2727
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Base Exchange	674-8917
Commissary	652-5102
Straight Talk	652-7469

Welcome retirees
Base honors past servicemembers during annual event

By Col. John Hesterman
12th Flying Training Wing commander

On behalf of the men and women of Randolph Air Force Base, I extend a warm welcome to the military retirees and their families who will join us Saturday for our celebration of 2004 Retiree Appreciation Day. Sponsored by the Randolph Retiree Activities Office, the annual observance is the base’s way of saying a collective “thanks” to the thousands of retirees in the greater San Antonio area for their service and legacy.

President James Garfield once said, “The people of this country have shown by the highest proofs

Retiree Appreciation Day Events

Retiree Appreciation Day is Saturday at 9 a.m. in Hangar 4 on the east flightline. The activities scheduled include:

- Vision screenings
- Blood pressure screenings
- Informational booths on various topics and organizations
- Clinic services
- Reduced price lunch at the dining hall
- Free refreshments

that human nature can give, that wherever the path of duty and honor may lead, however steep and rugged it may be, they are ready to walk in it.”

Our retirees have certainly walked that path, and we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude for forging the way ahead for all of us who wear the

uniform today.

Not only does our nation remain free and strong today because of the service of our military retirees, but the Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps are the most powerful and respected military organizations in the world because of the foundation they laid for integrity,

service and excellence we emulate as our core values today.

We use the term “Team Randolph” to describe the diverse group of people that makes up our base community. Retirees are integral members of our team. Many work on base as civil service employees or contractors, while others volunteer their time to help our operations at the clinic and other places, such as at the retiree activities office that makes Retiree Appreciation Day possible every year.

I offer the retirees who will visit us Saturday our sincerest wishes for continued health and happiness. Thanks for all you have done and all you continue to do for our nation!

Breast Cancer: Best protection is early detection

By Capt. Stephanie Rowan
22nd Medical Operations Squadron

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. – With 216,000 people diagnosed this year, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, according to the American Cancer Society.

It is also the second leading cause of cancer death in women after lung cancer, with an estimated 40,000 deaths so far in 2004.

Risk factors associated with breast cancer include being a female; a personal history of breast cancer; previous biopsies for benign breast disease; having a mother, sister, or daughter who has had breast cancer; excess exposure to radiation; and age. According to the ACS, approximately eight out of 10 breast cancer cases are in women over age 50.

Additional risk factors include alcohol intake beyond one drink a day; starting menstruation before age 12; menopause after age 50; no pregnancies or first childbirth after age 30; and lengthy use of

hormones after menopause.

The best protection is early detection.

Breast cancer is most curable when it is caught in the earliest stages. The size of a breast cancer and how far it has spread are the most important factors in predicting the prognosis – the outlook for chances of survival – of a woman with this disease. Early diagnosis of breast cancer greatly improves the likelihood that treatment will be successful. Screening examinations for breast cancer save many thousands of lives each year.

The goal of screening examinations for early breast cancer detection is to find cancers before they start to cause symptoms. Research has shown that monthly breast self-exams and self-awareness are the best way to detect potentially cancerous lumps and other breast changes.

Beginning in their 20s, women should learn about the benefits and limitations of BSE and begin monthly BSE. Clinical breast exams are done by a provider and should be done annually for all women ages 40 and older and high-risk women

ages 19 to 39, or as directed.

Another screening tool available is the mammogram, an X-ray screening used to evaluate breast tissue. Ask a provider when to begin mammograms. They should be done every one to two years beginning at age 40.

Always call a provider promptly if any of the following are noticed: a lump, breast thickening or change in breast shape; nipple discharge; skin dimpling, puckering or change in color or texture; or breast swelling, redness or heat.

Women may reduce their risk for breast cancer by controlling their weight, participating in a regular exercise routine and limiting alcohol to less than one drink a day. Women should also choose a diet low in animal fat and protein and rich in fruits and vegetables – five to nine servings a day. These lifestyle changes help build overall health, which is a major factor in fighting disease in general.

For more information about breast cancer, breast self-exams, or mammograms, call the women’s health clinic at 652-5728.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print New)

Congratulations Retirees

Today
Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Martin
Air Force Recruiting Service

Retirement announcements should be submitted to the Wingspread office by noon Friday two weeks prior to the desired date of publication. E-mail announcements to randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil or fax them to 652-5412. For more information, call the Wingspread office at 652-5760.

Base seeks representatives for 2005

Military, civilians may now apply to be next Randolph Ambassadors

By Susan Gandy

12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Randolph active duty military members and Department of Defense civilians can now apply for the opportunity to represent Randolph Air Force Base and participate in San Antonio's rich cultural heritage as a 2005 Randolph Ambassador.

As ambassadors, selectees are called upon to represent the base at a variety of activities throughout the year such as hospital visits, community parades, dedication ceremonies and receptions.

Base ambassadors traditionally begin their responsibilities with the annual visit to the Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital in February delivering Valentine cards, made by base children, to the patients.

Among other events, the ambassadors will also help kick-off the 114th year of Fiesta – a celebration of San Antonio's rich history and culture. Their duties during the annual 10-day Fiesta celebration, which runs April 15-24 next year, play a large part in the military's outreach efforts in the community.

Current Randolph Ambassador, 1st Lt. Amanda Kitchen of the 12th Operations Group, has fond memories of her time spent as a 2004 Ambassador over the last 10 months.

"My experiences as a Randolph Ambassador have been fantastic," she said. "It's given me opportunities to see the city in a different way, not only in the aspect of Fiesta, but through participating in parades in the outer community and going to the veterans' home. I have met so many wonderful people and learned so many new things during my time as an ambassador."

"I encourage anyone who might have the slightest interest



Randolph Ambassadors 1st Lt. Amanda Kitchen of the 12th Operations Group, fifth from right, and 1st Lt. David Allick of the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron, fourth from right, join other local military ambassadors in paying tribute to the heroes of the Battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto during the annual Pilgrimage to the Alamo April 19 as part of Fiesta San Antonio. (Photo by Joel Martinez)

to apply. It is definitely a once in a lifetime experience you will never forget."

Applicants must be at least 21 years of age as of February 2005 and assigned here through September 2005. In addition, their commanders or supervisors must also nominate them.

A selection panel will interview the candidates Dec. 8 and select one male and one female ambassador based on appearance, bearing, communication skills and general knowledge of San Antonio and the Air Force.

All applicants should talk with their supervisors and commanders to ensure duty schedules permit participation in all activities, including rehearsals, and that no obligations, such as planned temporary duty assignments,

school and other personal issues, prevent them from performing ambassador duties.

In the search for the next two base representatives, 1st Lt. David Allick, 2004 Randolph Ambassador, noted that candidates should have a few qualities in particular.

"I would suggest (applying) to anyone with an outgoing personality who has the time to dedicate to the program and wants to give of themselves to the community and have a lot of fun."

Randolph members interested in applying as an ambassador can pick up an application at the 12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs office in the west basement of the "Taj Mahal," Building 100. Applications are due Nov. 19.

For more information, call 652-4407 or 652-4410.

Escorts keep watch over foreign workers

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Hansen

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq – Help wanted: Critical job working outside in sandy, arid 110-degree heat. Must leave comforts of home, family and friends for four months. Will provide perimeter security during increased threat levels and escort third-country and local nationals to job sites. Free travel!

If someone read that ad in the newspaper, they probably would not be sending in a resumé anytime soon. However, most of the security escorts assigned to the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron not only volunteered for the job, they say they enjoy it.

About 60 Airmen perform the crucial job of escorting anywhere from 80 to 140 of the workers to different work sites throughout the base daily.

"We're the primary barrier between base personnel and the on-base (workers)," said Chief Master Sgt. Erik Price, security escort program manager who deployed from the Wisconsin Air National Guard. "(The escorts) came over here with a very good attitude, and they take their job very seriously."

Security escorts are broken into about nine different groups with various responsibilities around the base. One group inprocesses the workers from the gates, delivers them to their job sites and returns them for outprocessing at the end of their day, while others provide escort duties for construction sites, 24-hour work details and gate duty, among other things.

"Basically, no work on base gets done without us," said Staff Sgt. Guenther



Senior Airman Alfonso Santos organizes a group of workers while they inprocess at Balad Air Base, Iraq, Oct. 4. He is a security escort with the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and is deployed from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Robert Jensen)

Bogensperger, who supervises the processing at the gate. He is deployed from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. "Most of them are just trying to make money and help their families, but of course there (may be some) out there trying to gather information, so we always have to be on our toes."

The security escorts get an information and intelligence briefing from the chief at 7 a.m. From there, they move onto the armory to get their weapons and head out to their job sites.

"I was a little nervous at first, but after getting here and getting started, I actually enjoy it," said Senior Airman Jessica Hernandez, who is deployed from Eglin AFB, Fla. "Most of the (local nationals) are really nice. They'll say to me, 'You are my friend,' and smile and joke around, but we still have to keep our guard up. We are constantly watching their movements (and) their reactions to certain things."

"I wanted to be part of the fight," said Senior Airman Paul DuCharme, who is

deployed from Luke AFB, Ariz. "My folks are proud that I'm here doing this, and I'm proud of the job we're doing."

Upon arrival here, the escorts barely got their feet on the ground before they were out performing their service. They attended a security escort training program where part of their training included a use of deadly force class from 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Airmen and a local intelligence briefing from Office of Special Investigations agents.

"Within 48 hours of being here, hopefully they've had all of their training classes (and) are ready to go to the job site," Chief Price said. "We try to get it down to a couple days, because we need them right away. They're thrown right into the fire when they get here."

When the threat level goes up and workers cannot come onto base, the escort's job is not done; they are then in charge of manning towers around the perimeter 24 hours a day.

"It is a good program, and these kids come over here and bust their (tails) for four months," Chief Price said. "They're all over here trying to make a positive impact on the operation."

So even though their job is stressful and the hours are long, the escorts said they revel in the fact that they play an important role in Operation Iraqi Freedom. They are also some of the only Airmen who actually have a daily rapport with the local Iraqis.

"I volunteered to come over here to be part of something firsthand," said Senior Airman Alfonso Santos, who is also deployed from Luke AFB. "I'm proud to be doing this, and it's an important mission. Our group has a lot of fun, but we know when it's time to get down to business, and we do a good job."

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Officials allow more wounded troops to remain in service

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Defense Department officials have long been leaders in providing employment opportunities to people with disabilities; however, they have taken a major step forward by allowing disabled troops to remain in the military if they want to and can continue to perform, said DOD’s disability program manager Oct. 13.

As DOD observes National Disability Employment Month, this year’s theme, “You’re hired! Success knows no limitations!” takes on particular relevance for servicemembers wounded during the war on terrorism, Judy Gilliom said.

Servicemembers with disabling injuries used to be automatically turned over to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Ms. Gilliom said. If they returned to the DOD, it was generally after being medically retired, then hired as civilian employees.

“Now there is much more interest at the very highest levels in keeping anyone who wants to remain in the service as an active-duty member,” she said. “And there are some very striking examples of how that has been done.”

“With advances in medicine, technology and rehabilitation techniques, we are making every attempt to return willing servicemembers back to duty,” said David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. “We are increasing that capability with advances in amputee care, new prosthetic devices and the new Advanced Amputee Training Center established at Walter Reed (Army Medical Center in Washington).”

President Bush shared his vision in December during a visit with wounded servicemembers at Walter Reed.

“Americans would be surprised to learn that a grievous injury, such as the loss of a limb, no longer means forced discharge,” the president told the Soldiers.



President George W. Bush embraces the mother-in-law of Army Staff Sgt. Roy Mitchell, left, as family members look on during the president’s visit to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washinton, D.C. on Dec. 18, 2003. President Bush had just presented Sgt. Mitchell the Purple Heart for injuries sustained while serving in Iraq. (Photo by Eric Draper)

“In other words, the medical care is so good and the recovery process is so technologically advanced, that people are no longer forced out of the military,” President Bush said. “When we’re talking about forced discharge, we’re talking about another age and another (military). This is a new age, and this is a new (military). Today, if wounded servicemembers want to remain in uniform and can do the job, the military tries to help them stay.”

Lt. Col. Andrew Lourake is an example of that new age and new military. He injured his left leg during a 1998 motocross bike accident and ultimately had to have it amputated. Colonel Lourake, now fitted with a computerized artificial limb, was cleared last summer to return to flight status and will soon be back in the pilot’s seat.

“(This will set a) great precedent for the Air Force,” said Brig. Gen. David S. “Scott” Gray, 89th Airlift Wing commander at Andrews Air Force Base, Md. “It shows how well the Air Force

takes care of their own and how far technology has come to enable this to happen.”

Mr. Chu called the spirit of wounded servicemembers’ intent on remaining in the military “an enormous tribute to America’s all-volunteer force.”

Ms. Gilliom said an example like this – once almost unheard of – is occurring with increasing frequency as the military looks beyond traditional conceived notions about what disabled service-members can and cannot do.

“It’s important to let people achieve whatever potential they have to perform,” she said.

That, she said, is the whole idea behind this year’s theme.

“There’s a lot of interest in being sure that we facilitate that process and help people do what they want to do to adjust to any injury they may have acquired in the course of the global war on terror,” she said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Tax relief act aids some troops

Low-income troops serving in combat zones stand to reap program benefits

By Samantha Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Servicemembers in combat zones stand to reap tax benefits from provisions in the Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004, which President Bush signed into law Oct. 4.

Income earned in combat zones is not taxed; however, the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit are dependent on taxable-income figures. This had previously left a number of service-members at a disadvantage, Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton said.

“When servicemembers are in combat zone areas, they have a lot of their earned income excluded for income tax purposes. These two particular credits, in order to qualify for them, require you to have income that’s included for income tax purposes as gross income,” said Colonel Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council. “So a lot of our junior members were losing out on these tax credits because it appeared for tax purposes that they did not have (enough) taxable income.”

The Earned Income Tax Credit affects many servicemembers, and the CTC applies to anyone with a qualifying child. When considering the EITC, service-members can elect to include or exclude their tax-exempt pay earned in a combat zone, whichever will provide the greatest benefit.

While servicemembers with children will find the greatest benefit from EITC, it should not be dismissed just because there are no

children in the family. It is still possible to qualify, but the income cap is much lower and there is an age requirement that must be met.

If servicemembers are eligible for the Child Tax Credit, they do need to be aware that it is different than the EITC in regard to the combat zone pay situation, Colonel Fenton said. Including combat zone pay as part of total wages is not optional for the CTC. However, the formula to determine CTC has been reworked, and the amount that is refundable has been increased from 10 to 15 percent.

This could easily work in servicemembers’ favor because, again, many appeared to have no taxable income and were losing out on this credit because they were not earning enough to qualify.

“This way, we suspect that more junior (servicemembers) will actually qualify for a portion of the refundable tax credit,” Colonel Fenton said.

The 2004 act extended the CTC at \$1,000 per qualifying child through 2010; the previous amount was \$700 per child.

Colonel Fenton said officials have estimated that 114,989 servicemembers will qualify for these tax credits. The estimate only takes into account military incomes of less than \$35,000 if the servicemember is not in a combat zone. It also does not take into account a spouse’s salary.

She said the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will make it easier to determine what was taxed and what was not by reporting tax-exempt pay earned in a combat zone in Box 14 of each servicemembers’ W-2 form.

“We don’t want to confuse people with this election (of inclusion or exclusion of pay). Their (combat zone income) is still excluded for income tax purposes,” she said. “It’s only included to see if they can qualify for the additional credit.”

This rule change is not retroactive, Colonel Fenton said. No amendments can be filed for previous tax years.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

NEWS BRIEFS

12th Flying Training Wing quarterly award winners

The 12th Flying Training Wing recently announced its third quarter award winners.

The winners are:

Junior Enlisted Member
Senior Airman Germaine Jamerson
NCO
Tech. Sgt. Satanga Brown
Senior NCO
Master Sgt. Grace Davis
Company Grade Officer
1st Lt. Richard Hulun
Civilian Junior Category
Linda Jennings
Civilian Intermediate Category
Joe Martinez
Civilian Senior Category
Bert Dycus

AETC quarterly award winners

Headquarters Air Education and Training Command recently announced its third quarter award winners.

The winners are:

Junior Enlisted Member
Senior Airman Lori Dingis
NCO
Tech. Sgt. Christopher Haynes
Senior NCO
Master Sgt. Gabriel Hage
Company Grade Officer
1st Lt. John Riesters
Civilian Junior Category
Carla Taddi
Civilian Intermediate Category
Alma Silva
Civilian Senior Category
Russell Weniger

Navigator Award Winners

Four graduates of the Joint Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training program were honored at ceremonies Oct. 15.

Lt. j.g. Michael Trumbull earned the Air Education and Training Command Commander’s Cup and the Alden C. Markey Award.

Ensign Roger Davis received the 562nd Flying Training Squadron Academic Excellence Award while 2nd Lt. Charles Caggiano Jr. earned the Ira J. Husik Award. Second Lt. Jonathan Oliva received the Jack Donovan Award and the 563rd Flying Training Squadron Electronic Warfare Officer Academic Excellence Award.

Claims office closure

The claims office closes for training Monday through Oct. 29. However, the main legal office will still provide limited claims service during that time.

The main office will accept DD Form 1840Rs, Notice of Loss or Damage forms, on a walk-in basis during this time and customers can also make appointments for claims reaching their two-year deadline before Oct. 29 by calling 652-3110.

The office will not conduct its normal claims briefing Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. and routine claims appointments will not be made during this time. Regular appointments resume Nov. 1.

AFOSI recruitment briefing

Headquarters Air Force Office of Special Investigations recruiters are conducting a briefing Nov. 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Pitsenberger Hall for those interested in applying.

For qualification criteria or for more information, call 652-2639.

Postal agency sets overseas holiday mailing dates, policies

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON – The dates for mailing items to overseas locations in time for the holidays are fast approaching, and officials at the Military Postal Service Agency have suggestions for ensuring packages and letters arrive on time.

“If packages are mailed earlier, it may be possible to use space-available mail or parcel post service, which would result in less expensive postage rates,” said Mark DeDomenic, the agency’s chief of operations.

As the holidays approach, mail volumes get higher, and it takes longer for packages to get through the system, Mr. DeDomenic said.

The recommended deadlines for sending mail from the United States to all overseas military mailing addressees for the holidays are listed below.

- ❑ Parcel post: Nov. 13.
- ❑ Space-available mail: Nov. 27.
- ❑ Parcel airlift mail: Dec. 4.

- ❑ Priority and first-class letters/cards: Dec. 11 (Dec. 6 for APO 093).
- ❑ Express mail military service: Dec. 20 (Not applicable for APO 093).

People mailing packages need to be aware that customs forms are required on all international mail, and that shipments should be properly packaged before sending them overseas, Mr. DeDomenic said.

“Always use strong boxes with plenty of packing material, such as newspaper or popcorn,” he said. “Strapping or reinforced tape is strongly recommended. Ensure fragile items are packed tightly and individually wrapped in bubble wrap.”

Postal services in the United States and foreign nations have restrictions on what can be mailed in or out of the country. Mr. DeDomenic said postal customers need to consider these restrictions and also the length of the journey when mailing items overseas.

“Generally speaking, anything that would cause harm to other mail, equipment or mail handlers, or anything that is hazardous to an aircraft in-flight is nonmailable,” Mr.

DeDomenic said. “Customers should check with their local military post office for specific regulations. In general, plants, some food items such as meats, alcohol, hazardous materials and flammable goods may not be mailed.”

Also critical to getting packages overseas on time is ensuring they have the correct mailing address.

The No. 1 reason for delayed delivery of mail is improper or incomplete addresses, Mr. DeDomenic said.

He said people sending mail to an overseas APO or FPO, should not use the geographical location. For example, do not use Baghdad, Iraq, on the address. This will cause the mail to be placed into the international mail system and may cause severe delays.

Because of security restrictions, mass-mailing operations such as Operation Dear Abby or the “Any Servicemember” mailing programs are not being supported by the agency, Mr. DeDomenic said.

Agency officials encourage servicemembers to support the publicly available Web sites that allow the American public to write supportive letters to them.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Base officials encourage members to vote early, during off-duty time

Base officials do not foresee a need for base personnel (military and civilian) to take any special time off from work to vote, due to the availability of early voting and the polls being open extended hours and on the weekends in Texas. Base members should plan accordingly to make sure they can cast their ballot during off-duty hours.

Those individuals registered to vote in the local area (Bexar County and Guadalupe County) may vote early starting today through Oct. 29. The closest polling location to Randolph for Bexar County voters is the Universal City Hall, 2150 Universal City Blvd. and for Guadalupe County voters is the Guadalupe County Office Building, 1101 Elbel Road, Schertz.

Members choosing to wait until Nov. 2 to cast their vote, must do so in their designated precinct, which can be found on their blue voter registration card.

Those members registered to vote outside of Texas who have not yet received their absentee ballot, should call Capt. Andrea Justice at 652-4376 with the name of the state and county in which they are registered. For more information, members should contact their unit voting representative.

Early voting information

Bexar County
The hours of early voting are:
Saturday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday: noon to 6 p.m.
Monday through Oct. 29: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Early voting locations:

- Bexar County Justice Center, 300 Dolorosa (basement, south end across from cafeteria); Closed -- Saturday and Sunday
- Blattman Elementary, 3300 N. Loop 1604 W.
- Blossom Athletic Center, 12002 Jones Maltsberger
- Collins Garden Library, 200 N. Park
- Cortez Library, 2803 Hunter
- Crossroads Mall, 4522 Fredericksburg
- Dellcrest Shopping Center, 1850 S. W.W. White
- Encino Park Community Center, 1923 Encino Rio
- Great Northwest Library, 9050 Wellwood
- Johnston Library, 6307 Dun Valley Drive
- Las Palmas Library, 515 Castroville Road
- Lions Field, 2809 Broadway
- Memorial Library, 3222 Culebra
- Northside Activity Center, 7001 Culebra
- Oakwell Library, 4134 Harry Wurzbach
- Shavano Baptist Church, 5047 De Zavala Road

- Somerset Community Center, 19375 K St.
- South Park Mall, 2310 S.W. Military
- Stinson Middle School, 13200 Skyhawk
- Thousand Oaks/El Sendero Library, 4618 Thousand Oaks
- Universal City Hall, 2150 Universal City Blvd.
- VIA Metro Center, 1021 San Pedro
- Ward Elementary, 8400 Cavern Hill
- Westlakes Mall, 1401 S.W. Loop 410
- Westmore Elementary, 3250 Thousand Oaks
- Windsor Park Mall, 7900 Interstate 35 N.

For more information, visit www.bexar.org/elections.

Guadalupe County
The hours of early voting are:
Today and Saturday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Oct. 29: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Early voting locations:

- Guadalupe County Administrative Building, 307 W. Court, Seguin
- Guadalupe County Office Buidling, 1101 Elbel Road, Schertz

For more information, visit www.guadalupe-elections.com.

49 YEARS AGO

in the Wingspread

☆ The 3511th Combat Crew Training Squadron began converting from B-57 medium bombers to T-33 trainers. The Air Force was transferring the light bombers to other bases. To be qualified in the T-33, pilots were required to complete six missions in the aircraft and six in the C-11 Link trainer. Maintaining proficiency after initial training required at least one mission every 30 days. During the 12 months B-57 crews were here, the squadron trained 192 two-man crews and flew more than 5,000 hours in the aircraft.

☆ The 3510th Flying Training Group closed its survival school after three years of operations. The school was located on Camp Bullis where aircrews were exposed to a variety of survival and intelligence-related activities. Base personnel had been “volunteered” to serve as aggressors during the three-day course. Records showed that 9,500 aircrews received that training here while the school was in operation from 1952 to 1955.

☆ Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Nathan Twining was quoted as saying that, even though the Soviet Union has “thousands more combat airplanes” than the United States, the U.S. is ahead because of long range bombers, refueling capability, and world-wide basing. Our B-47 fleet is “many times” larger than their medium bomber fleet, the general said, and the B-52s, then entering the inventory, give us a definite advantage. Referring to the B-36 fleet, then being retired, he said, “Perhaps more than any other factor, the B-36 has kept us from being attacked.”

It’s in the hole



Lt. Gen. John Hopper, Air Education and Training Command vice commander, Col. John Hesterman, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, and Col. Michael Winslow, AETC director of staff, break in the new greens on the back nine at Randolph Oaks Golf Course Thursday. The greens had been under construction over the last five months but are now open for public play. Renovation of the greens on the front nine is scheduled to begin in February. (Photo by Joel Martinez)

Linked for life

Army chaplain saves Randolph colonel suffering heart attack

By **Angela Kennedy**
Counseling Today Senior Staff Writer

During the 2004 American Counseling Association Convention in Kansas City, Mo., last April, two counselors met under some extraordinary circumstances. While most people at the convention were attending sessions, greeting old friends and networking with new ones, these two men found themselves in a life-and-death encounter.

The day before the opening session, Lt. Col. Kenneth McKellar, Air Education and Training Command senior logistics officer and a licensed professional counselor, felt some strange pains in his chest, but figuring it was nothing, he tried to sleep it off.

“I got up the next morning and walked 14 blocks from my hotel to the convention center – not wanting to pay the \$2 for the shuttle – the cheap old guy that I am,” Colonel McKellar said.

He managed to sit through the first session of his itinerary, but he felt the pain returning. By the opening session of the event, he knew something wasn’t right.

“My wife is a nurse, and I had my PDA with me, so I e-mailed her, asking about the chest pain. I wasn’t sure if it was indigestion or something worse,” he said.

Colonel McKellar never received his wife’s reply telling him to seek medical attention. He thought he should leave the auditorium and find a gift shop where he could buy some antacids.

“I got up because I thought, if this is a heart attack, then it would be kind of embarrassing to fall out here in front of everybody – the weird things we think,” he said. “So I walked out into the hall to get some Roloids, thinking I would solve the problem that way.”

As he stepped out into the hall, he felt a

very strong, hot flash of pain shoot up his neck. The next thing Colonel McKellar recalls is a paramedic at his side.

But, before the emergency responders arrived, Capt. Kevin Forrester, an Army Chaplain, rushed to the colonel’s aid.

“He was convulsing from what I assumed at the time was a seizure. I rolled him over and fought with him to establish a clear airway,” Captain Forrester said, noting he immediately began a secondary assessment and, by feeling Colonel McKellar’s pulse, he could tell he was in some kind of cardiopulmonary arrest.

Before entering the Chaplain Corps, the captain worked in the medical field as an Army surgical scrub nurse, EMT and CPR instructor. He was also trained in combat medicine.

“(Captain) Forrester stopped, rendered aid and cleared my airway. Basically, according to my cardiologist, I was dead and he saved my life,” said Colonel McKellar, adding he had a blockage in his lateral arterial descending artery, and his heart was in ventricular fibrillation. “I had gone into convulsions and my heart had stopped beating.”

Once the paramedics arrived on the scene, Colonel McKellar was rushed to Saint Luke’s Hospital in Kansas City to have a stint inserted into the blocked artery. After a few days of recovery, he flew home to be re-admitted to a local hospital, where they implanted a defibulator into his chest.

“I was technically dead and, without intervention, I would not be here to share this story,” he said.

Being on active duty in the Air Force, the colonel was in pretty good shape. He ran regularly and worked out, so his heart problems were a bit of a surprise.

“I don’t have any of the risk factors except for one – genetics,” he said. The only thing



Lt. Col. Kenneth McKellar, chief of aircraft maintenance at Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, reviews documents in his office. Colonel McKellar recently survived a heart stoppage and now wears an “implantable cardio verper defibrillator” inside his chest. (Photo by Bob Hieronymus)

that could have foreshadowed his heart condition is the fact that he has two uncles who had heart attacks in their 50s, and he is 49.

On Aug. 6, Colonel McKellar wrote to ACA Executive Director Richard Yep to express his gratitude to the association and for Mr. Yep’s assistance in identifying and locating Forrester.

“I told him that some ‘nurse-guy’ helped me – I don’t have a clue who he is, but I would like to thank him,” said Colonel McKellar. “He managed to track him down. Richard was awesome. My wife, Debby, called him, and he was just great at helping her get to Kansas City.”

Once McKellar recovered, he contacted Captain Forrester to personally thank the man who helped save his life and to fill in the blanks about what had happened to him that day.

“It was just awesome he was there. The truth of the matter is I don’t know if I would have stopped (to help someone the way he helped me). I would like to think I would, but you never know until you are put in that situation. But, he didn’t hesitate. I just thank God he was there.”

Captain Forrester didn’t see himself as a hero but humbly accepted Colonel McKellar’s thanks. The two men corresponded by e-mail and discovered a few odd coincidences – both are active-duty military, both are LPCs and both men hold doctorates. The biggest coincidence of all is the fact that, by chance, the two met.

“I was running late that day, and had I not have been late, I would not have walked by him when I did. So, God works in mysterious ways,” said the chaplain. (Courtesy of Counseling Today)

Superior performer

Randolph senior honored as commended student

By **Jennifer Valentin**
Wingspread staff writer

A senior at Randolph High School was recently named a National Merit Scholarship Program commended student.

Charlie Giattino, son of Lt. Col. Thomas and Mary Giattino, placed among the top five percent of more than one million students taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit qualifying test. Only about 34,000 students out of the 1.3 million in the nation who took the test achieved the “commended student” honor.

“I feel proud to have this honor,” said Charlie. “I’m just happy I did so well on the test.”

To prepare for the qualifying test, Charlie studied a SAT book he had from when he took the test several years ago.

He is currently a member of the Interact Club and the National Honor Society, and his hobbies include playing paintball and golf.

With almost half of his senior year under his belt, Charlie has started thinking about college, and is applying to several universities.

Both Charlie’s mother and father said they are very pleased with his academic performance and excited about his future plans.

“Mary and I are extremely proud of Charlie,” said Colonel Giattino. “It is nice to see his hard work recognized.”

The National Merit Scholarship Program for high school students is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that started in 1955. For more information, visit www.nationalmerit.org.



Randolph High School senior Charlie Giattino selects a book to read at the school’s library. Charlie was recently named a National Merit Scholarship Program commended student. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)

HALLOWEEN FAMILY FESTIVITIES

Variety of events scream ‘fun-for-all’

By Ray Roscoe
12th Services Division

Ghouls, goblins and ghosts should get ready because Halloween is right around the corner and the 12th Services Division has several fun and safe events planned for everyone.

“From the Hunt and Saddle Club’s annual Casper’s Round-up and Haunted Stables to Pumpkin Mania at Canyon Lake, we have a variety of events going on this year,” said Shelta Reese, 12th Services Division marketing director. “Everyone should have a great time.”

The fitness center kicks off the holiday with a “Greased Pumpkin” free throw competition on Oct. 28 at 11 a.m.

During the event, participants have two minutes to make as many free throws as possible. The competition is open to all active duty and Department of Defense ID cardholders.

The festivities then move on to the youth center for the

**Base housing trick-or-treat hours are
Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m.**

Halloween Hi-Jinx on Oct. 30 from 6:30-8 p.m.

“This is a safe Halloween atmosphere for toddlers and children up to 12 years old,” said Ms. Reese.

During the event, children participate in costume contests and games such as the ring toss and giraffe toss. In addition, a balloon-making clown and a face painter will also be at the event. The Halloween Hi-Jinx is open to all base families.

The Randolph Hunt and Saddle Club also hosts events on Oct. 30, including Casper’s Round-up and the Haunted Stables. Casper’s Round-up is from 7-10 p.m. for children up to 6 years old and consists of a children’s hay maze, a hayride, craft making and sing alongs. The Haunted Stables, targeted toward teens, is open from 8-11 p.m. and features a bonfire and haunted hayrides. Those interested can purchase

tickets in advance at the Hunt and Saddle Club office which is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 3-5 p.m., or at the door the night of the event for \$5.

Canyon Lake also has activities planned for Oct. 30 during its second annual Pumpkin Mania at 2 p.m. During the event, participants can handpick their own pumpkin to compete in a pumpkin carving or pumpkin coloring contest. The carving contest is for those age 16 years and older while the coloring contest is for younger children. Carving time is limited and prizes are awarded to the top three pumpkins.

Closing out this year’s 12th Services Division’s Halloween celebration is the officers’ club with a Halloween Brunch on Oct. 31 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Also, base members are reminded that base housing trick-or-treat hours are Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m.

For more information on 12th Services Division Halloween events, call 652-2052.

Halloween safety tips

For trick-or-treaters

- Secure emergency identification discreetly on a bracelet or within the Halloween costume.
- Teach children their home number, address, and 911, in case they get separated during trick-or-treating.
- If fake knives, guns or swords are part of a child’s Halloween costume, make sure they do not appear real and that they are soft and flexible to prevent injuries.
- Map out your route in advance and make sure parents are aware.

Safety tips for passing out candy

- Consider purchasing healthy alternatives to candy for the trick-or-treaters such as raisins.
- Take extra care in decorating the walkways and door to the house, eliminating any hazards that can cause children to trip.
- Keep the house, porch and yard area well-lit.
- Always keep flammable decorations, such as a lit jack-o-lantern or decorative lamp away from where children will be walking or standing.

Trick-or-treat safety secures family fun

By Jennifer Valentin
Wingspread staff writer

The 12th Security Forces Squadron recommends parents and guardians keep a few Halloween safety tips in mind when preparing to take their children out for a night of trick-or-treating.

“We want to make sure everyone has a fun, yet safe Halloween,” said Master Sgt. Robert Vickers. “You can never be too safe on the holidays.”

The first safety precaution trick-or-treaters can take involves costume shopping, the sergeant said.

“We recommend costumes without masks because they can block peripheral vision,” Sergeant Vickers said. “The best costumes are those with bright colors or those made with reflective materials. This way drivers can better see trick-or-treaters in the dark.”

It is also a good idea to have a flashlight or glow stick with you when out during Halloween, said Sergeant Vickers.

The wing safety office and 12th SFS personnel will be passing out glow-in-the dark bracelets in the housing areas on Halloween during trick-or-treat time between 6-8 p.m.

Security forces officials recommend parents accompany younger children and that older children travel in groups at that time.

“Also, if driving around, be sure to watch out for trick-or-treaters,” said Sergeant Vickers. “It is also important to park and walk with children, rather than follow behind them in a car. Parents can be focused on watching their own children and not see others.”

Children should cross the street under street lights where visibility is good and only stop at houses where they know the residents, the sergeant added.

Once children are finished trick-or-treating, security forces officials recommend parents check all candy before allowing children to eat it.

Adults should also make sure children do not eat any unwrapped food such as caramel apples or homemade popcorn balls, 12th SFS officials said.

“It is important that parents and base members report any suspicious activity they see to security forces at 652-5700, or they can call 911 for emergencies.”

For more information on Halloween safety, call security forces at 652-5700.

Skeet, trap range offers beginners, experts sporting fun



Capt. Garry Penna, T-1A PIT Trainee, practices at the Randolph Skeet and Trap Range recently. The range is open to base members Wednesday from 1-6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for registered targets. (Courtesy photo)

By Shelta Reese
12th Services Division

The Randolph Skeet and Trap Range, located along perimeter road across from the hunt and saddle club, offers base members a fun and exciting place to take up a unique recreational sport, said range officials.

The area consists of two National Skeet Shooting Association and Texas Skeet Shooting Association official skeet ranges as well as one trap range and five stand sporting clays.

In addition, the range hosts six registered weekend shoots as well as weekly targets every Tuesday so NSSA and TSSA members can shoot competitively for yearly points.

The two skeet ranges can

accommodate beginners as well as avid skeet shooters, said Denny Taylor, outdoor recreation manager. For those who are not familiar with skeet, Mr. Taylor noted, one round consists of eight stations at different angles along a half circle, where they can attempt to shoot as many of the 25 targets as they can. Trap consists of five stations in which the 25 targets fly away from the shooter.

For beginners, the range offers expert staff and rental guns as well as shotgun shells for sale.

The range is open Wednesday from 1-6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for registered targets.

For more information, call 652-2064.

Upcoming skeet events

National Skeet Shooting and Texas Skeet Shooting Association members can sign-up for the following weekend shoots:

- Nov. 5-7: Veterans Day Open
- Jan. 14-15: Mid Winter Open
- Feb. 11-12: Valentine Day Open
- March 25-27: Texas Retired Military Championships/Open
- April 22-24: Randolph Open/Club Championship
- May 6-8: Texas Armed Forces Championships/Open

Randolph destroys Brooks 65-38 at varsity basketball season opener

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

With a “three-peat” focus, the Randolph Air Force Base Ramblers kicked off the 2004-2005 Men’s Varsity Basketball season on the right foot, defeating Brooks City-Base 65-38 Saturday.

Coming off consecutive championships in the Southwest Military Basketball League, Randolph has high hopes coming into the new season.

“We have eight new guys this year, so leading up to this we’ve been focusing on getting them up to speed as well as on our defense and making the fast breaks and getting rebounds,” said Randolph Coach Terrance Dunkley. “Overall I’d say the guys did well today. We got everyone some floor time and they all did their part.”

Ramblers Ed Simpson, Tyrone Williams and Joe Powell led the team with a combined 33 points and 20 rebounds.

“We tried to follow Coach Dunkley’s philosophy on the court which is ‘defense first,’” Simpson said. “We let our defense dictate our offense, which is why we were able to make the fast breaks and turnovers and get to the basket.”

Less than nine minutes into the game, the Ramblers were running the court with a commanding 25-8 lead. Carefully calculating their baskets and talking to one another on the floor helped their

“We let our defense dictate our offense, which is why we were able to make the fast breaks and turnovers and get to the basket.”

Ed Simpson
Randolph Ramblers Men’s Varsity
Basketball Team player

offense and defense come together. They pressed Brooks and forced them to take bad shots from the outside.

With 9:05 remaining in the half, Brooks was able to muster a few moves against the Ramblers’ during a 9-point run to make the score 25-17. The teams closed out the half at 31-19 in favor of Randolph.

The Ramblers showed no mercy in the second half, as they widened their lead to 47-23 with 14 minutes to go. A demoralized Brooks struggled to stay in the game, but could not overcome Randolph’s offensive and defensive attacks.

In the Ramblers second game of the season, Tuesday night, they defeated San Antonio College 88-66.



Randolph Rambler Powell Spencer attempts to block a Brooks City Base player Saturday at the Men’s Varsity Basketball season opener. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice)

SPORTS SHORTS

Wing Sports Day

The fitness center hosts Wing Sports Day Oct. 29. This year’s event kicks off at 8 a.m. with a 5K flight line run beginning at base operations.

Wing members can participate in a variety of competitive sports including basketball, golf, tennis, softball, volleyball and racquetball. In addition, various recreational activities will be available to include bowling, table tennis, dodge ball, horseshoes and tug-o-war.

For a complete list of events, times and locations, or to sign up, interested participants should contact their unit’s representative.

For more information, call 652-2955.

Aerobic classes available

The fitness center offers a variety of aerobic classes Monday through Friday including step, super step, combo, cardio kick boxing, cycling, body conditioning, sports conditioning and yoga. Classes are held at various times throughout the day.

The fitness center also offers a kick boxing class Saturdays from 9-10 a.m. and a cycling class from 10-11 a.m.

For a complete list of times for weekday classes, stop by the fitness center, or call 652-5316.

Country line dancing class

The fitness center hosts a country line-dance class Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. in the aerobics room. The class is free and open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. Pre-registration runs Monday through Oct. 29.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Self defense class

The fitness center hosts a self defense class Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in racquetball court four. The free class is open to all active duty and base civilians. Children must be at least 14 years old to attend and accompanied by a parent or guardian if age 14 or 15.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Running symposium

The health and wellness center hosts a running symposium for novice and intermediate runners Wednesday at 1 p.m. The class is designed to teach runners about training progression, the need for a proper warm-up and cool-down before and after every workout, common running injuries, injury self treatments and how to select the proper running shoe for their foot type.

For more information or to sign up, call 652-2300.

Tobacco cessation class

The health and wellness center offers two tobacco cessation classes Nov. 23 at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. During the class, participants learn alternatives to tobacco use and receive either the prescription pill Zyban or the patch at the end of the class to help them quit.

For more information, call 652-2300.

Base jogging program

Base joggers can join the fitness center’s jogging program and earn a free t-shirt when they log a certain amount of miles.

A mileage card is maintained at the main desk and every time a jogger travels a certain distance he or she can add that to his or her card. Awards are given for 100 miles, 500 miles, 1,000 miles, 1,500 miles, 2,000 miles and 2,500 miles.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Family golf special

The Randolph Oaks Golf Course offers a family special Monday through Friday after 6 p.m. Adults can golf for \$2 and children for \$1.

For more information, call 652-4653.

LOWER SEGUIN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The first phase of reconstruction of Lower Seguin Road is in progress. This phase includes the closing of Woman Hollering Creek Bridge with access from FM 1518 blocked. This phase of the project should be complete this fall. The South Gate remains accessible by way of Loop 1604.

GATE HOURS DURING HARMON DRIVE CONSTRUCTION

MAIN GATE/HARMON DRIVE

- Monday through Friday two lanes inbound from 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Monday through Friday two lanes outbound from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Closed all other times including weekends, holidays and family days

SOUTH GATE (Two-way traffic)

- Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Closed weekends and holidays

EAST GATE (Two-way traffic)

- Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Sunday and holidays 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

WEST GATE (Two-way traffic)

- 24-hour operations, seven days a week
- Commercial vehicle entrance

HIGH SCHOOL GATE

- Closed

Cougars ground Ro-Hawks



Randolph Ro-Hawk Lance Copeland shoe-string tackles Cole Cougars running back Mark Weathers during a junior varsity game here Oct. 14. Randolph fell behind 14-0 as Cole’s ground attack struck for two quick second-half touchdowns. With under four minutes left in the game, Randolph scored a touchdown and added a two-point conversion on a fake extra-point kick to cut the deficit to 14-8, the final score. (Photo by Master Sgt. Lee Roberts)

Blowout

Ro-Hawks pound Cole Cougars 48-0

By Alan Becker
Wingspread contributor

The Randolph Ro-Hawks celebrated an easy victory Oct. 15 after defeating long-time rivals, the Cole Cougars, in a 48-0 blowout at home.

Randolph’s defensive line of Will Drue, Kyle Kuhl, Brandon Bradley, Derek Copeland, Willie Whitley and Moton Hopkins dominated the Cougars, holding them to eight total yards and one first down.

“The players followed their assignments and made good decisions to stop the Cougars,” said Mike Kinsey, defensive coach.

On offense, the Ro-Hawks piled up the yards and points behind the balanced rushing of Zach Collins, Brandon Irvin, Jace Merrell, Patrick McDonald and Jeveck Ragadio.

Early in the first half, Collins scored the first of his four touchdowns of the night on a 38-yard run and kicked the extra point to give Randolph a 7-0 lead

Hopkins stopped the Cougars on their next possession on an eight-yard sack forcing them to punt. Late in the first quarter, quarterback Brandon Irvin set up Randolph’s second score on a 36-yard scamper to the 1-yard line, then scored on the next play to increase the lead to 14-0. Collins kicked the PAT and closed out the



Ro-Hawk Zach Collins tears past the Cole defenders for one of his four touchdowns Oct. 15. The Ro-Hawks defeated the Cougars 48-0. (Photo by Steve White)

quarter with a 14-0 Randolph lead.

Collins scored again on a five-yard jaunt with 4:43 left in the half to cap a 61-yard drive with Collins, Irvin and Merrell sharing the running load.

With no luck on the ground and trailing

21-0, Cole went to a passing game, but gained only five yards on three plays. A bad snap on the punt gave the Ro-Hawks the ball at the Cougar 39-yard line. Mixing up running with two pass plays, Collins scored on a three-yard run to make the score 27-0

at the half.

Kuhl, Drue and Mike Martin shut down the Cole offense early in the second half. Randolph went right back to the ground game and capped a nine-play 65-yard drive with a short touchdown run from Collins to put the Ro-Hawks up 34-0.

The Ro-Hawk defense continued its dominance in the second half. A hard hit forced a fumble, which Derek Copeland recovered on the Cougar 14 yard line. Three plays later, Merrell ran in for a three-yard touchdown.

Back on defense, Hopkins pushed the Cougars back with a 12-yard sack, then Nick Meyers and Drue stopped an attempted screen pass for an 8-yard loss forcing another Cole punt.

Patrick McDonald led the final drive for Randolph with a 41-yard touchdown run late in the game to push the score to 48-0.

The Ro-Hawks travel to Blanco tonight for their toughest game of the season. Randolph and Blanco (4-3) are tied atop the Class 2A District 27 standings at 2-0.

“Blanco runs the same offense as we do, so fans should see a mirror image out there next week,” said Pete Wesp, Ro-Hawks head coach. “It will be a tough game.”

The next home game is Oct. 29 against Johnson City.